

TALES OF THE UNUSUAL

STORY/ART BY SUNGDAE OH

MY WIFE'S MEMORIES
EPISODE FOUR



DON'T WORRY,
HONEY

I CALLED HOME AND
SAID I'D BE LATE

A black and white illustration of a man from the chest up. He has short, dark hair and a serious expression. A small, empty speech bubble is positioned above his head. He is wearing a dark, zippered hoodie. A larger speech bubble is located at the bottom right, containing text.

NO MATTER WHAT
I SAY, I CAN'T GET A
WORD OUT OF YOU...



COME TO THINK OF IT, YOU DIDN'T
REALLY LIKE ME VERY MUCH WHEN
WE WERE DATING.

IT TOOK ME FOREVER
TO CONVINCE
YOU TO MARRY ME.

YOU HAVE NO IDEA
HOW HARD IT WAS.
HAHA.

IF I KEEP TALKING TO
YOU, LIKE AT THAT
TIME...

WILL YOU ANSWER
ME SOMEDAY...?

I JUST REMEMBERED
THE DAY I PROPOSED TO
YOU.

WE'D BEEN DATING
FOR 4 YEARS, BUT I WAS
SO NERVOUS AND AFRAID...



HM? LOOKS LIKE
IT STOPPED RAINING...



GOOD. MY ARM WAS
GETTING SORE.

SHAKE
SHAKE



HUH..?

MY WIFE'S TALKING TO SOMEONE.



THAT WAS PROBABLY WHEN
THE POLICE CAME TO TAKE HER HOME.



IT'S A GOOD THING
THERE'S A POLICE
STATION NEARBY.



?



CAN WE
HELP YOU...?



THAT'S HOW MY WIFE MADE IT HOME SAFELY.



NOT LONG AFTER, MY DAUGHTER GOT MARRIED.



THERE WERE SO MANY FRIENDS AND LOVED ONES AT THE CEREMONY.



MY SWEET, KIND-HEARTED DAUGHTER HAS
BECOME A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN.



EVEN THOUGH SHE COULDN'T BE HERE,
I KNOW MY WIFE WOULD BE SO PROUD.



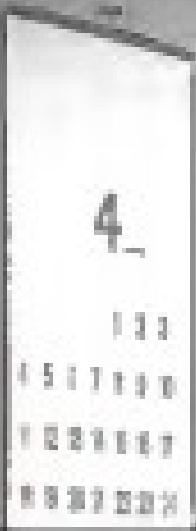
AND SO THE SEASONS WENT ON CHANGING

4 -

1 2 3

4 5 6 7 8 9 10

AND BEFORE I KNEW IT, 2 YEARS HAD PASSED.



I HAD KEPT TRACK OF THE DATE, AND I REALIZED THAT NOW MY WIFE WOULD'VE ONLY HAD AROUND ONE YEAR LEFT TO LIVE.



AROUND THIS TIME, MY WIFE'S CONDITION WAS
GETTING WORSE AND WORSE SO
SHE SPENT MOST OF HER TIME AT HOME.

SHE COULDNT EVEN RECOGNIZE HER OWN FAMILY,
AND EVEN DOING SIMPLE HOUSEHOLD
CHORES WAS ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE.

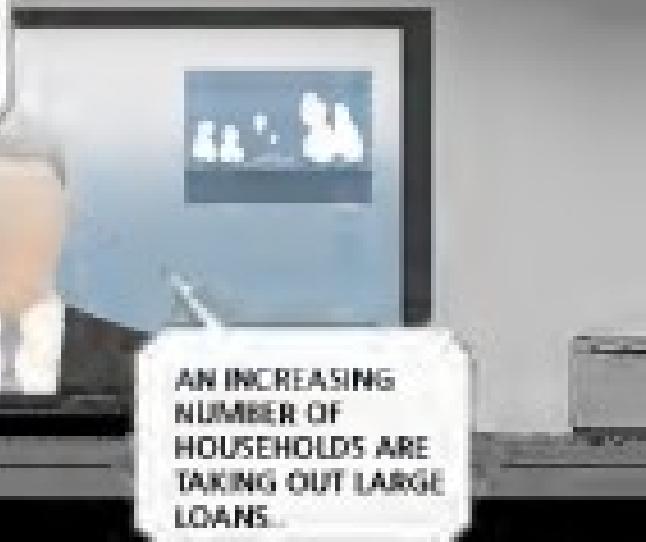


TIME FOR
THE NEWS.

I'VE HEARD THAT WATCHING TV ISN'T
GOOD FOR PEOPLE WITH DEMENTIA,
SO I ONLY WATCHED THE NEWS
FOR A LITTLE BIT IN THE EVENING.



HOUSEHOLD
DEBT IS NOW
REACHING
RECORD-BREAKING
HEIGHTS.



AN INCREASING
NUMBER OF
HOUSEHOLDS ARE
TAKING OUT LARGE
LOANS.

NOT VERY
INTERESTING.
EH?

SHOULD
WE WATCH A
SHOW YOU LIKE?



AND AT THAT MOMENT,





FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 2 YEARS, MY WIFE'S
EXPRESSIONLESS FACE CHANGED TO A SMILE.

SON.
TURN ON THE
COMPUTER!

SLAM

WHAT?

I'M JUST LOOKING
FOR A NEWS ARTICLE.

THIS IS FROM
EXACTLY
3 YEARS AGO.

BUT WHY...?

THE TV WAS IN THE SAME SPOT 3 YEARS AGO.
SHE MUST'VE SEEN SOMETHING ON TV
THAT MADE HER SMILE.



EXACTLY 3 YEARS AGO, THE SHOW
THAT WAS PLAYING AT THIS MOMENT...
WHAT COULD IT BE...?

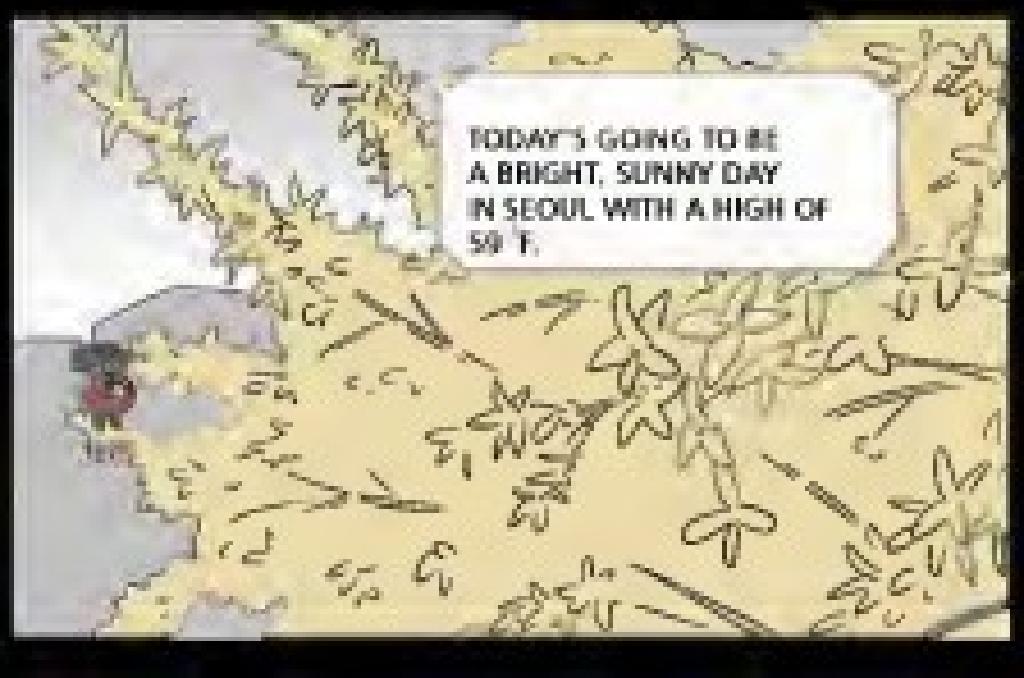


WE'RE SURE
STARTING TO FEEL
SOME SPRING
WEATHER HERE



THE FLOWERS
BLOOMING ARE
A SURE SIGN THAT
SPRING HAS COME

YOU CAN SEE IT IN THE SMILES OF
PEOPLE AS THEY WALK
THROUGH THE PARKS, TAKING
IN THE FRAGRANT SMELL
OF THE GARDENS.



TODAY'S GOING TO BE
A BRIGHT, SUNNY DAY
IN SEOUL WITH A HIGH OF
59° F.



I WISH I HAD
MORE THAT
I COULD OFFER
YOU.

WE MAY HAVE TO
LIVE OFF OF CHEAP
NOODLES FOR THE
REST OF OUR LIVES.

BUT IF YOU CAN
ACCEPT ME AS I AM...
WILL YOU MARRY ME...?





BE MORE
SERIOUS—I

CANCEL THAT
PROPOSAL—I



SHE REMEMBERED.



SHE MAY HAVE FORGOTTEN
WHO I AM, BUT SHE STILL
REMEMBERED THAT DAY.



ONE DAY, MY SON CAME HOME WITH SOME NEWS.



YOU'RE GOING TO WORK
OUTSIDE OF SEOUL..?

WHERE ARE
YOU GOING?

I GOT SENT TO
DAEJEON.

DAEJEON...
I SEE...

I'LL PROBABLY BE
THERE FOR
AROUND 3 YEARS.

ARE YOU SURE YOU DON'T
WANNA COME WITH ME?
YOU MIGHT GET LONELY.



NO,
IT'S ALRIGHT.

I...

I'D LIKE TO STAY HERE.

AND SO MY SON WAS GONE AND
I WAS ALONE IN THE HOUSE.



HONEY..

DID YOU..

KNOW THAT I'D BE
ALONE SO YOU'RE
STAYING WITH ME?



THANK YOU...
DARLING.

I'M AFRAID.

AS TIME GOES ON AND
THE DAY GETS CLOSER,

AM I GOING TO HAVE TO LOSE
MY WIFE AGAIN?

"P, he continued..